



**40TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
25 - 30 AUGUST 2019
BANGKOK, THAILAND**

Advancing Parliamentary Partnership for Sustainable Community

(Res 40GA/2019/Soc/04)

**RESOLUTION ON
ELIMINATING ALL FORMS OF VIOLENCE AND EXPLOITATION
OF CHILDREN**

The Fortieth General Assembly of AIPA:

Recalling the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, and the Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography;

Reaffirming the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, particularly Goal 5 on Gender Equality and Goal 16 on Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions;

Emphasizing the need to promote and protect the rights of children as one of the characteristics and elements of ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Blueprint 2025;

Further recalling the AIPA Resolution No. Res.36GA/2015/WAIPA/03 on “Strengthening Legal Framework to Eliminate Violence Against Women and Children in ASEAN” which resolved to support the ongoing efforts of the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) as stipulated in the Regional Plan of Action on the Elimination of Violence against Children (RPA on EVAC) 2016 – 2025;

Recognizing the implementation of AIPA Resolution No. Res.38GA/2017/ORG/09 on “Formulating and Implementing Project Based Initiative on Strengthening Legal Framework to Protect Children from Sexual Exploitation in Travel and Tourism” by the AIPA;

Recognizing the efforts of regional and international communities including ECPAT International and UNICEF East and Asia Pacific Regional Office (EAPRO) in eliminating all forms of violence and exploitation of children;

Taking into account the endorsement of the Legal Checklist made at the 10th AIPA Caucus Meeting in Malaysia, to be used as a tool to strengthen and harmonize child protection laws in ASEAN Member States;

Alarmed by the number of cases of violence against child and sexual exploitation of children in ASEAN that has been intensified in recent years, as reported by ECPAT International and other international organizations;

Reaffirming the purpose and duty of AIPA Secretariat as stipulated in the “Agreement on the Establishment of AIPA Secretariat”, to engage with international organizations, governments and parliaments which support AIPA, in particular its purposes and principles and to provide procedure and criteria for the engagement as approved by the General Assembly.

Hereby resolves to:

Call upon AIPA Member States to strengthen and realign their national plan of action for children according to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and incorporate elimination of all forms of violence and exploitation of children into its countries' shared values;

Encourage ASEAN Member States to build better communication and coordination in combating transnational crimes related to children, child pornography and crimes against children in travel and tourism, through law making, policy development and capacity building initiative in protecting children from sexual exploitation, as well as better sharing of information and best practices;

Call upon ASEAN Member States to implement mechanisms to assist children who are victims of trafficking and slavery;

Recommend AIPA Secretariat explore the establishment of AIPA Ad-Hoc Working Group on Children as a formal avenue to discuss and develop effective methods in combatting all forms of violence and exploitation of children;

Encourage the AIPA Member States to effectively use the Legal Checklist as a mechanism to protect children's rights.
